

Remarks

Claims 1-17 and 37-43 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 38-43, canceled claims 2-17 and 37 and added new claims 45-84. Support for the amendments claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Particularly, the newly presented claims are directed to previously pending claims 2-7, 17 and 37, incorporate the various elements of claim 1 and present dependent claims reciting the claimed elements. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 1, 38-43, and 45-84 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of the objections to the claims and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-7 and 38-43 have been indicated as allowed in the subject application; however, this appears to be a typographical error.

Applicants again acknowledge that claims 8-17 and 37 (now presented as new claims 64-84) have been withdrawn from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. However, Applicants respectfully request that the withdrawn claims pending in this matter be rejoined in the subject application upon an indication of an allowable composition of matter claim from the elected invention in accordance with MPEP §821.04.

Claims 1-7 and 39-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicants note that claim 44 is included in this rejection; however, claim 44 has been previously canceled. Applicants respectfully assert that there is adequate written description in the subject specification to convey to the ordinarily skilled artisan that they had possession of the claimed invention. However, in a sincere effort to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion, Applicants have amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

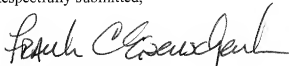
It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Amendment Transmittal Letter